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Cristal Lamb, Treasurer

Hickory Ridge Residents' Association c/o 300 Galbra Street Columbia, SC 29209

> 803 695-2800 www.hr-residents.org

Edith Cunningham, President

2008-196-8

Roosevelt Robertson, Vice President

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

September 8, 2008

Public Service Commission of South Carolina, 101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Sir/Madame:

We want to go on record as opposing any rate hike that has been requested by South Carolina Electric and Gas Company.

Our reason for this decision is the fact that SCE&G takes pride in the fact that they are a monopoly. Hickory Ridge asked them to install a few more security lights in our neighborhood because our safety needs and topography have changed since the sub-division was built in the early 1970's. We were told by two of their managers after waiting over six months for a reply that they only install lighting for neighborhoods with a full neighborhood associations. Over forty years ago when our neighborhood was built; homeowner associations were not a necessary item. Therefore a homeowners association was not included in the charter.

We are currently paying \$1.90 per resident for the few lights they do have here. They are rarely maintained, and we were told they will not have trees cut back off of the lights. We asked them to install a few more in some critical need areas and increase the \$1.90 per resident charge; they refused. SCE&G cited economic reasons and told me they were a business and not a humanitarian organization.

If they cannot be a socially responsible company; then they should seek other means of financing their fossil fuels other than a rate hike from people such as us. Perhaps if more people were to oppose them in their use of fossil fuels, they would have an incentive to consider wind power or solar power.

Hickory Ridge would have been a perfect neighborhood for them to pioneer the wind or the sun to power the security lights.

The bottom line is Hickory Ridge (a neighborhood of over 500 homes) opposes any rate hike for South Carolina Electric and Gas.

Thank, You,

Edith Cunningham, President

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